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THOMAS E. WATSON

LIFE OF THOS. E. WATSON

BY HIS GRAND-DAUGHTER,

GEORGIA WATSON LEE

CHAPTER VI

EARLY MARRIED LIFE

All who have ever courted, loved, and married, know how much the biographer, or teller, of a life story has left untold when he has completed his chapters, giving in detail, as he thinks, the visions, the ambitions and the paroxysms of this romantic and indispensable period in life. In this young day of life, the flowers of hope springing up on every side, are kissed by the morning breezes, and painted with rainbow hues by the glorious, energizing rays of the sun, the lordly center of our little planetary system.

And thus we might paint picture after picture of this spring time of life, with every one portraying a delightful experience which is but the beginning of a happy life, sometimes long and sometimes short, and sometimes sad. The domestic life of Mr. Watson and Miss Georgia was not **sad**, except as the dispensation of Providence brought bereavement, and partings such as must come to all sooner or later; it was not **long**, neither was it short for nature decreed otherwise; a glimpse of how full it was of the things that are really worth while in this life is the topic of this chapter.

No better opening can be found than Mr. Watson's own words, taken from the rich treasures of his scrap book:

A paragraph headed Housekeeping, begins—

"Be it known unto all whom it may concern, that on the ninth day of October last I married Miss Georgia Durham. After a long courtship filled with alternate hopes and discouragement my good star triumphed over all opposition and I was as happy as could be. Very tender and pure was the feeling which prompted my purpose when I laid my best hopes before her and asked her to crown my life with her love. Many a moon came and went in despondence and the long summer days of 1877 I shall never forget."

Much has been said by the biographers of men who have made history, concerning the wonderful influence of the noble women who shared their lives; but yet the half has never been told.

This benign influence goes into the innermost soul of man, sweet-

ens his every thought, ennobles every deed, leads on to greater flights of oratory, and as a guardian angel, inspires the immortal words of the literary genius. In this case, when you have said the last word, when you have exhausted the vocabulary describing the power of a devoted wife over the gigantic mentality of an illustrious husband, you have only striven in vain to express the full power of Miss Georgia over the eccentric Sage of McDuffie. It was she who encouraged, she who inspired, she who consoled, she who uplifted. Mr. Watson was distinctly a man of moods, when he was happy and hopeful, he was exuberant, every one knew it and felt it and consequently without being aware (such was his personal magnetism) every one with whom he came in contact was happy also. Likewise when he was disheartened. He was gloomy, morose and impossible to get along with. It was Miss Georgia, and Miss Georgia alone, who was able to approach him at these times. She alone knew the sort of balm to soothe his wounded spirits and lift his mind from the depths to the heights.

Their married life when they were young must have bordered on the divine. Except for the awful shadow of poverty that relentlessly haunted them, their life was perfect. Even this did not mar their love and happiness seriously, for they were too deeply in love with each other to dwell on it. They were both highly imaginative, and this coupled with their extreme youth helped them over the rough places and made life a playground for them instead of a workshop.

Miss Georgia was only eighteen and Mr. Watson twenty-one at the time of their marriage. Because of this and a wish to keep their daughter with them as long as possible, Dr. and Mrs. Durham made arrangements for the young couple to live with them for a while. For reasons useless to enumerate and for the same reasons that every young couple find it impossible to live with their parents, Miss Georgia and Mr. Watson found it wise to move to a house to themselves in February, Mr. Watson tells us.

"We commenced living with Dr. and Mrs. Durham. All was right for a while and my business brightened in response to my renewed energy. Two families will have conflicting desires, interests, etc., the good mother-in-law dislikes to relinquish her authority over the daughter. I ride a tall horse when it comes to my affairs and Mrs. Durham's nag is a pretty high stepper herself and is not very careful where she steps. Result—a blow-up. I buy a nice little house on White Oak Street and on Saturday, the 25th of January, 1877, we move into it, Georgia and I. And tonight we are cozily settled and life moves gently with us, and I feel stronger as I move into the world under larger responsibilities than ever before. With my little wife beside me always, to be proud of, to work for and make happy, whose gentleness never tires and whose affection is a thing of

beauty and a joy forever—I drink from the great fountain where its taste is sweetest and purest."

That last little paragraph so truly and beautifully told always brings before my eyes an unwritten poem, a song without words, a something intangibly real and true, a thing that was ever present in their lives to the day when the angel of death separated the briefless young lawyer from his love, Miss Georgia, and the thought above was so real and lasting that even death was not to separate them very long, for only a few brief six months had passed until Miss Georgia, the ever helping and loving, had gone to meet again her Thomas Watson.

But we are far ahead of our story. Our thoughts now are with them in the hey-day of youth and love, before sadness had begun to shadow them as it did in later years. They were as young and as gay and as foolishly happy as the day was long, because they had each other and had no graver responsibilities. After they had moved into their home Miss Georgia continually strived to make their home beautiful, she was seldom ever at rest so busy was she making curtains, sewing, planting flowers, and shrubbery. It was her purpose to make things as cheerful and as beautiful as was humanly possible to welcome the tired young lawyer who was to come home every evening at six o'clock, sometimes hopeful, sometimes discouraged, but always with gratitude in his heart for his faithful little wife.

With your indulgence I will tell you as nearly as possible a little anecdote as it was told me by my Grandmother. It is charming for its simplicity and for the characteristic value of Miss Georgia.

For weeks Miss Georgia had begged and implored Mr. Watson to hang in the parlor some paper, very beautiful paper that Mr. Watson had bought for her while on a trip to Augusta. Miss Georgia was very proud of the paper and was impatient to have it hung on the parlor walls as soon as possible. At every reqeust Mr. Watson always said, "Of course, my dear, I shall hang it tomorrow without fail." Tomorrow would come and with it the same question. "Won't you please hang the paper, dear, you know we can't afford to have a man do it for us and I am so anxious to have the room ready, etc." And always Mr. Watson replied tomorrow. At last, however, Miss Georgia enveigled a definite promise for the next day without fail if he lived and nothing happened. The next day came and at six o'clock in walked Mr. Watson.

"Hurry, dear," he said, "get my things ready and the horse

harnessed, I must go to Lincolnton right away, Mr. ———— has shot and killed Joe ———— and I must get there as soon as possible."

After he left, Miss Georgia sat down and cried, being so young and having her heart set on the paper being hung for the party she was to give the next day. But Miss Georgia was not the one to sit and cry for long, she was too resourceful for that, so after a while she dried her tears, found a ladder, got her brush and glue that had been bought a day earlier for that purpose and determined to paper the walls herself when alone.

All went fairly well for two or three strips of paper, and then—

The river had risen too high for Mr. Watson to cross over into Lincoln County, so he had to turn back. When he reached home a queer and pathetic sight met his eyes. His little wife sat on the floor, her hair and dress bedabbled with glue and bits of paper, all around her were strewn blotches of glue, and the paper which she had succeeded in hanging was hopelessly wrinkled on the wall and half falling off. Of course Mr. Watson, being just a man, did the wrong thing—he laughed, laughed long and loudly.

That laugh brought forth the first burst of temper Mr. Watson had ever heard from Miss Georgia. She actually blessed him out. The idea of not papering the walls for her in the first place and then when she had tried so hard to do it herself for him to come home and laugh at her—it was unthinkable.

Mr. Watson's laughter soon turned to astonishment at the anger in her eyes. He told her he was so sorry and asked her pardon for laughing and took her in his arms to comfort her. They were very soon as happy and as gay as ever, and that night with the dim lamp light to see by and sweet Miss Georgia to give directions Mr. Watson papered the walls.

At her party next day when the young ladies were admiring the new paper and asking qeustions about it Miss Georgia merely laughed and told them that Mr. Watson had bought the paper and hung it for her as the room looked so bare. She didn't bother to tell them how happy she was after having the only thing that ever bordered on a quarrel since her marriage.

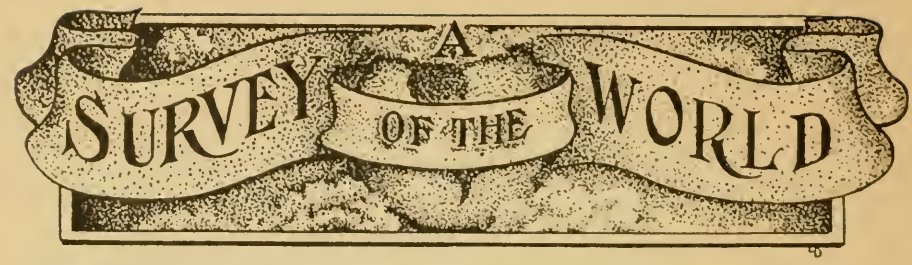
There can be no doubt but that Mr. Watson's happy home life was being reflected in the rapidly growing success of his law practice.

Another excerpt from his scrap book testifies to the truthfulness of this statement.

"Altogether, I am satisfied with the two weeks' work. I think I have gained a much higher standing in the profession. My practice has steadily increased all the while and I have reached that point where business is brought to me from other motives besides friendship. Since November 1st I have made as much money as I made the twelve months previous and twice as much as my first year. I have got rid of that sophomorical strain which mounts to the skies at every little occasion. My ideas flow copiously and boldly. I am never at a loss for similes when I think them appropriate. I can certainly reason better than ever before. Ease of manner, in the art of approaching a jury, is being gained as fast as I could expect and to me my future seems something like the future of which I had dreamed ever since I was a boy. My present, even, was a dream of beauty to me, three years ago.

"I am as happy as a man ever can be. Often I wake in the stillness of the nights and a sense of peace, after so much strife, comes to me in calm, beautiful force. I feel like a storm-tossed vessel safely anchored. Every sail is furled in quiet. The flag droops securely from the mast, on board the Sentinel alone breaks the silence by his signal "All is well." And the waves and breezes murmur music while my ship rides at anchor."

March, 1878.



DESOLATION BY FLOODS AND STORMS. While public attention is centered around the desolation along the Mississippi, we should not overlook the disasters of storms and floods sustained by Florida, the Land of Flowers, less than a twelve month ago. Lake Okeechobee and the contiguous regions present a vast problem for Federal solution. The matter was discussed recently by Col. Howard G. Rice before the Exchange Club of West Palm Beach, Fla. The Palm Beach Post carried a summary of the strong plea made by Attorney Rice for Congress to take action relative to protection of life and property in Florida in connection with similar action for protection and development of the Mississippi region. In carrying this news item the Palm Beach Post says:

That all Florida should join in a plea to Congress when it convenes in the fall for passage of a flood control measure for Lake Okeechobee was the substance of an address before the local Exchange Club yesterday, and which the club espoused.

The address was delivered by Attorney Howard Rice of the law firm of Quincey & Rice. "Control of Lake Okeechobee, a National Proposition," was the subject on which Attorney Rice spoke.

The speaker referred to the loss of life and property at Moorehaven last September and said the situation was comparable in a degree to the Mississippi deluge, which has roused sentiment all over the nation for Congressional action to prevent a recurrence of the disaster.

If it is right for the government, he said, to appropriate the vast sum that will be needed to rehabilitate the Mississippi River area, then there is no good reason why a repetition of the Lake Okeechobee situation should not be guarded against.

The government owns the lake, Mr. Rice said, and should take care that its property does not break out in disaster to individual life and property. He said he was glad to note the interest in the Mississippi situation by Senators and Congressmen. He said the two projects were allied so far as national interest is concerned.

"If the government insists, as it does, that Lake Okeechobee shall be maintained at a level of 16 feet," the speaker said, "then it is the government's duty to see that the lake is not a menace to life and property. This menace is a reflection upon the whole state's welfare. It is the duty of every community and every citizen in the state to work for government action next fall."

The speaker referred to the vast amount of money our government spends in such expeditions as the

Nicaraguan and Chinese protection expeditions of the navy and marines and said it is equally the duty to protect property and lives at home.

A plea was issued to all newspapers and to all citizens in the state to take up the battle cry for federal control of Lake Okeechobee as a joint measure with the Mississippi flood control measure which will be put before Congress next fall.

* * *

STOPPING WAR. In a recent issue of a current magazine we noticed this heading, "To Stop Wars—Stop Lending." In this discussion they quoted from Mr. Lamont's remarks at a dinner connected with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States as follows:

Naturally, it is a tempting thing for certain of the European Governments to find a horde of American bankers sitting on their doorsteps offering them money. It is rather demoralizing for municipalities and corporations in the same countries to have money pressed upon them.

That sort of competition tends to insecurity and unsound practise. A warning needs to be given against indiscriminate lending and indiscriminate borrowing.

The same day Sec. Hoover is quoted as saying:

If this principle could be adopted between nations of the world, that is, if nations would refuse to allow the lending of money or the balancing of budgets for purposes of military equipment or war purposes, or even that type of public works which do not bring some direct or indirect productive return, a great number of blessings would follow to the entire world. There could not be a greater step taken in the prevention of war itself. I do not propose that these are matters that can be regulated by law. They are matters that can be regulated solely by the commercial and financial sentiment of each of our countries.

The New York Evening World commenting said, "Mr. Hoover is manifestly right.

The time may come when civilized nations will refuse for the sake of their own profit to loan money to be used in making possible the cutting of throats in other nations. It all goes back to the one unanswerable truth—that, when you take the profit out of war, there will be no wars.

* * *

ANOTHER PICTURE OF MAN. Most of us will recognize familiar scenes and episodes in the following somewhat rambling portrait of man by the Tobacco Journal:

Man is a creature of circumstance. He comes into the world without being consulted and he generally goes out against his will, unless he has bats in his belfry; in that case, if he commits harakira, he is counted as a candidate for hell-fire. When he is little the big girls kiss him and when he is grown the little girls kiss him. If he is poor he is criticised for his poor management, and if he is rich he is dishonest. If he needs credit he can't get it; if he is prosperous everybody is willing to loan him money, when he doesn't need it. If he refuses to give to charity, he's tight; if he does, it's for show. It's a rocky road through life but we all want to travel it and take the chances.

Every day that man lives he becomes more and more convinced that the world is made up of numerous "ups" and "downs"—in which we are always busy trying

"to keep appearances up and expenses down," ever marking time by:

THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop—
At late or early hour.
NOW is the only time you own;
Live, love, toil with a will—
Place no faith in "tomorrow," for
The clock may then be still.

* * *

THE AVERAGE MAN. If you would like to have a more definite forecast of the future of the average man, statisticians have gone into this matter and produced the following important milestones, which mark the career of the average citizen. According to these statistics here's what will happen to that fictitious character:

He gets his first teeth at seven months.

He begins to walk at one year of age.

He talks at fifteen months.

He goes to school at six years of age.

He leaves school between fifteen and sixteen years.

He earns his first money at fourteen.

He is self-supporting at twenty.

He gets his first automobile at twenty-one.

He marries at twenty-five.

He reaches his greatest financial prospect at twenty-six.

His family circle is complete at thirty.

He dies at fifty-three.

* * *

AGRICULTURE. Mr. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture, recently took a long prospective view into the future when he discussed "The Next Fifty Years in Agriculture in the U. S." as given in the Farm Journal. He thinks that we may have 150,000,000 population by the end of the next quarter of a century, and says our available farm land area will not provide for this population and maintain our agricultural exports unless some important changes are made. Arguing that it is possible these changes will be made he continues:

Among many uncertainties as to the next 50 years in American agriculture, one thing can be set down as fairly certain. There will be increased pressure of population on land resources.

All our good land that can be used for crops without drainage, clearing or irrigation is in use. Most of our fair land is in use, and a great deal of our poor land. In the comparatively near future it will be imperative, if we are to feed our increasing population without becoming dependent on foreign food supplies for us to increase our yields per acre.

What is possible in this direction is indicated by the fact that average yield in leading European countries exceed ours by more than forty per cent, and also by the fact that in some sections particularly in the northeastern quarter of the United States, we have increased our yields per acre greatly.

It may seem a cheerful augury to the farmer that we are headed for a time when agriculture will have to hustle to keep pace with the country's needs. It is provided farmers take full advantage of the opportunity they will have. But let us not suppose that they can achieve prosperity simply by let-

ting their production drop down to or below the needs of our population. That looks like an easy way to boost prices. It is really inviting foreign competition in the home market. No nation can tolerate a food shortage.

Canadian grain, but for the tariff, would be moving already in the United States in large quantities. If our grain production drops much below our requirements in the future, consumers will have a strong motive to remove the tariff on wheat.

The same applies to all protected essential products. Our farmers are entitled to protection in the home market, but they will have a hard job to keep it if their production falls too much below the country's wants. A seirous deficit of necessaries would force the country to draw on foreign sources of supply, no matter how much our own farmers were hurt.

I am talking, of course, about the comparatively distant future. Agriculturally we are not on an import basis yet, by a long way. In recent years approximately 13 per cent of the net product of our agriculture has been marketed abroad. Fifty per cent of our cotton crop must find a foreign market annually. Last year nearly one-third of our wheat went abroad, and a fair proportion of our pork, tobacco and apple production.

Downward Trend in Exports

It should not be forgotten, however, that the trend in our agricultural export trade was downward before the war and is downward again now, and seems likely to continue downward. Moreover, our imports of competitive agricultural products, such as sugar, wool, mohair, hides and skins, tobacco, dairy products, flaxseed and flaxseed-oil, make up an increasing annual total. Imports of these commodities last year, for example, amounted to more than $582,000,000. Sooner than we think we may be heavily beholden to foreign countries for essential foods and fibers.

It will be necessary long before 50 years elapse to increase our crop yields. Transforming pasture into crop land and in increasing the production per man engaged in agriculture will not solve our food problem. Larger production per acre will be required because the area of land that can be profitably worked is limited.

Changes in the consumption habits may lessen the pressure to some extent. There is likely to be increased consumption of foods of vegetable origin and less consumption of foods of animal origin, except milk. Nevertheless, the pressure of population on land resources is bound to force intensity of cultivation beyond what is now profitable.

Farmers will therefore be impelled to make closer contacts with science. Improvement of plants by selection and breeding for better performance under different conditions, is certain to make advances. There may be important discoveries in the laws of heredity, which will give greater control over plant growth and development.

Now and then some epochal discovery will effect spectacular results. But the main advance will probably come from the sum of many small improvements painstakingly developed by farmers. One cannot speak with too much confidence as to prospects for the control of crop pests and diseases. Increasing knowledge of these things tends to be offset by increasing opportunities for them to spread. On the whole, however, it is fairly safe to predict considerable improvements in the use of the land.

Organization Is Necessary

There is another phase of agriculture that will develop greatly in the next half a century. I mean organization. Agriculture can not afford to remain

unorganized in this age of large scale business operations.

Organization is necessary in agriculture, not merely for the purpose of regulating the movement of farm products into consumption, but to give the farmers more control over the volume of their output. A million farmers acting independently in the production of a given crop are much more likely to throw markets out of balance by overproduction than is the case when the number of competing units is small. Organization enables farmers to accomplish the double object of adjusting production more accurately to anticipated market requirements, and feeding supplies gradually into the market so as to prevent needless price fluctuations.

The co-operative movement is now so firmly established in the United States that its future is certain. It affords the best approach to the solution of the surplus problem, through the two channels of merchandising and regulated production. It lodges effective bargaining-power in the hands of farmers, and makes possible great economies in distribution through the elimination of unnecessary waste, duplication of effort, and overhead expense.

Perhaps the greatest danger faced by the co-operative movement is that it may not always be able to draw a distinction in practice between legitimate price stabilization and improper efforts at price control. But that mistake, whenever committed, will carry its own penalty. It is therefore not likely to be made very often. My own feeling is that organization in the next 50 years will do as much for agriculture as any other one thing.

Two paths open before American agriculture. One leads toward national self-efficiency in essential foods and fibers and the other toward dependence on a foreign food supply. As to which path will be chosen, the country as a whole, of course, will have something to say. It can favor the right choice by giving agriculture all due protection and encouragement.

But the final word will remain with the farmer. If knowing that he can have the domestic market as long as he continues to supply it adequately, he continues to increase his labor efficiency and his crop yields per acre, agriculture will regain and hold its place in the economic scheme on equal terms with other producing groups. It will be the surest guaranty of national progress and security.

Whenever our farmers of the west, who produce the grain and feed crops and our farmers of the South who produce the cotton and early truck crops, come to a full realization of their importance in the agricultural economics of this United States and organize through co-operatives or other agencies as the financial powers and industrial interests have done, then agriculture in the South and West will be a power that Congress will recognize; it will be an occupation attractive to the sturdy youth of our land; it will be a business crowned with prosperity, like agriculture in Denmark, where the bulk of the bank resources is in deposits from the agricultural population. Quite a contrast to our conditions where the farmer is the borrower and the financial and industrial interests are the lenders. Let us hope that thoughtful articles like Secretary Jardine's, together with

careful, intelligent, individual and collective consideration of these great problems may cause a "face about" of all concerning the future of America's agriculture. To do this effectively we must begin with the present, for a solution of today's problems constitute a working basis for the future. The farmer must take the initiative and so far as legislation is concerned he should begin on his Congressman.

* * *

ON HOLIDAYS. The Pathfinder seems to be good in following paths and finding things. Below we quote, because we think it is good, from an article on holidays which appeared in that publication a short while ago:

Though the calendar says there are only 52 weeks in a year, records show at least 100 special weeks designated for one purpose or another. They range from "achievement week" to "Y. M. C. A. week." There are weeks devoted to animal kindness, apples, better homes, corn, cranberries, courtesy, daughters, books, canned goods, constitution study, fathers, fire prevention, forest conservation, gardens, lemons, mothers, oranges, pay-your-bills promptly, prunes, reindeers, speech, temperance, thrift and what not.

Other virtues are clamoring for seven-day recognition. Proposals include "pride-in-appearance week," "honesty week," "efficiency week," "self-denial week," "good roads week," "poetry week," "civic week," "good health week," etc. Milk and a host of other foodstuffs are also hungry for free publicity.

In addition to special weeks our calendar is glutted up with special days to supplement the regular holidays. There are no national holidays, technically speaking, but we have 12 days in a year that are practically that. In addition, different states observe about 50 other legal or public holidays. This, of course, is in addition to religious holidays. To the healthy list of holidays have recently been added "Armistice day," "Navy day," "National Fathers' day," and other special days of more or less significance.

Some of the special observances are undoubtedly worthy but many are selfish and are fostered by professional boosters. All are accomplished through propaganda, whether by the raisin-growers, the clothing industry or publishers who want to drum up trade. And some weeks are positively silly. Prohibition, for instance, is a law and should be equally well observed the whole year round. Likewise one should be kind to animals 365 days and not only in seven.

Of course, people are at liberty to honor any person, product or object they want to, whether as organizations or individuals, but why drag the nation into it?

* * *

MATRIMONY AS SEEN BY A CONTEMPORARY. Recently we saw this in a current magazine:

Matrimony is said to be the United States of love. It's the union of hearts and the settled state in life, unless there is a flare-up or somebody is guilty of cheating. It's the state of rapture, resignation, and distraction, with lots of thrills on the side. Matrimony is a strange kind of arithmetic where one and one makes two and later on a larger number. When a man marries he swears to love, cherish, and protect his

wife, and to endow her with most of the gate receipts, but often he holds out on her and sometimes runs after strange gods and stranger women. When a woman marries she promises to love, honor, and obey her husband, but she doesn't always live up to the pre-nuptial pledges, and in this late date refuses to answer to the word "obey." She persists in having her mane bobbed like the girls and exposes her soup-bones with the same reckless abandon as they do. Matrimony brings man and woman closer together in many ways and separates them in other ways, especially if the woman is an artist in nagging.

* * *

SOME INTERESTING ASTRONOMICAL FACTS

The diameter of Antares, the brightest star in the constellation of the Scorpion, as determined recently at Mt. Wilson by Michelsons's interferometer method, is between 280,000,000 and 400,000,000 miles. If the center of this star were placed at the center of our Sun, the surface of Antares would extend out beyond the orbit of Mars, our next outlying neighbor in the solar system. Thus the diameter of Antares is considerably more than 300 times the diameter of our Sun; its volume is more than 30,000,000 times the volume of our Sun. Its distance from us is about 250 light years.

Inconceivably large as are some of the above dimensions, it is nevertheless true that our knowledge of them and of everything else in the visible universe is transmitted to us wholly by light-waves arising from the very rapid motions of the inconceivably small particles or electric charges, called electrons, that form essential parts of the atoms or molecules of which all matter is composed.

Distances expressed in hundreds and thousands of light-years are measured through the effects produced by light whose waves are so short that there are about 50,000 to the linear inch. In addition to the visible radiations, the atoms emit the much shorter waves corresponding to X-rays and also longer ones called heat waves. Electric waves or "wireless waves" are of similar nature, but are caused by the oscillations of electric charges in bodies larger than atoms. All these waves travel with the same velocity, 186,300 miles per second.

The unit employed in measuring light-waves is the Angstrom, whose length is one ten-millionth of a millimeter (0.000,000,004 inch). The instruments and methods are so accurate that results correct to less than a hundredth of an Angstrom are obtained.

The hydrogen atom is probably composed of a very small positively charged nucleus around which an electron circulates at a relatively great distance. The diameter of this orbit, or the diameter of the atom, is less than one hundredth millionth of an inch= 1/100,000,000 inch. The diameter of the electron is about one six-thousand-billionth of an inch=1/6,000,000,000,000 inch. The diameter of the nucleus is thought to be one eleven-million-billionth of an inch=1/11,000,000,000,000,000 inch. In a cubic inch of air there are about 440 billion billion molecules= 440,000,000,000,000,000,000.

HOW THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SOCIETIES ARE FIGHTING THE JEFFERSONIAN

BY

THOS. E. WATSON

In Watson's Jeffersonian Magazine August, 1911

Ed. Note: In a series of articles and reprints which will run currently in The Watsonian we will endeavor to show our readers some of the hardships and persecutions Mr. Watson encountered in his fight against the Roman Catholic Church. We further intend to show that Mr. Watson was one of the first outstanding authors, orators, statesmen and Americans to uncover the work of the Hierarchy in our nation. We also intend to prove that this work was not the work of a bigot or an intolerable fool as Mr. Watson has been painted, but the work of a brilliant American rendering a distinctive service to his Country which he loved better than life itself.

Let us explain in the beginning that Mr. Watson held nothing personal against the Catholic people but discussed the issue purely from a historical point of argument. In introducing his first article relative to the Roman Catholic Hierarchy Mr. Watson said:

For the individual Roman Catholic, who finds happiness in his faith, I have no word of unkindness. Some of my best friends are devout believers in their "Holy Father." If anything contained in the series of chapters dealing with the hierarchy causes them pain, and alienates their good will, I will deplore it.

The Roman Catholic ORGANIZATION is the object of my profoundest detestation—NOT the belief of THE INDIVIDUAL.

The Watsonian still maintains this position and we are fighting the Catholic Church's effort to capture the Presidency with the same spirit that Mr. Watson fought it in pointing out to us fifteen years ago what is happening today. The service Mr. Watson rendered his country in this connection will some day go down in history as the greatest patriotic act of any man of any time, that is, providing this nation stays Protestant.

The article which follows clearly shows the method of attack used by the Catholic Church. Such campaigns against freelances all over America as the one waged against the Watson publications are entirely responsible for the pro-Catholic press today. The weak-kneed publishers today have not the backbone to FIGHT, letting the chips fall where they may, regardless of any Catholic subscribers or advertisers they may lose. Now whether the Protestants will adopt the same procedure and win back the powerful influence of the daily press which molds the minds of our nation remains to be seen.—W. J. B.

PLAN WAS EFFECTIVE

Some time ago Tom Watson conceived the idea that he had been constructed to conduct a periodical, and at once launched Watson's Magazine. Thomas is an eccentric person who has floundered much in politics, apparently not being able to secure a solid foothold anywhere. Tom's magazine proved to be quite as much of a freak as its founder, with the result that there was not much doing. It became necessary to start something, and so Thomas bethought him that mayhap the Catholic Church would be a good target and he immediately began to fire his filth-filled popgun at everything of a Catholic character.

Just about now the National Federation of Catholic Societies deemed it wise to take a hand in the scrimmage. Secretary Matre got a copy of Tom's monthly

grump, singled out the advertisers and addressed a courteous note to each, calling attention to the vile contents of the Watson output. The response was immediate and effective.

Result: Decided slump in the coffers of the now tearful Tom.

The pocketbook is always wonderfully sensitive—From Catholic Union and Times, Buffalo, N. Y.

The above clipping shows the venom and vindictiveness of the Pappycrat priesthood. They have taken advantage of our free institutions to plant their idolatrous superstition in all of our large cities; and they themselves never tolerate any criticism of their pagan creed, or their heathenish ceremonials. It is the Protestants who furnish all the toleration; the Roman wolves never furnish any.

At Belvidere, Illinois, on the 6th of June, 1911, the local priest, Joe Joyce, wrote an insolent letter to the board of the Belvidere High School, threatening to apply to the courts for injunction, if the board did not eliminate prayer and benediction from the exercises at Commencement.

There are only three Catholic children in the graduating class, but the insolent priest protested against their having to listen while a Presbyterian preacher, Rev. W. T. McKee, offered prayer and pronounced the benediction.

And the priest had his way: the cowardly board backed down.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that this powerful and intolerant priesthood should be waging war on my magazine. I am telling the truth on them in a way that hurts. If the Protestants don't wake up and get busy, freedom of the press will soon be stifled by these idolatrous pagans.

It is illegal for Anthony Matre, Secretary of the Federation of Catholic Societies to be using the mails as he is doing. He lives in St. Louis, Missouri, and from that Southern city, of a Protestant state, this Italian Pappycrat is sending out threatening letters to our advertisers.

Here is a copy of his "courteous" letter:

My Dear Sir: The American Federation of Catholic Societies has respectfully drawn your attention to a very insulting article against the Catholic Church, appearing in the recent issue of Watson's Jeffersonian Magazine, published at Thomson, Ga. We asked you to kindly send to the publishers of said magazine a letter disapproving their method of insulting the spiritual leaders of the Catholic Church and our Catholic fellow citizens, because we felt that you respect the feelings of your Catholic patrons. We can hardly believe that your

company is in sympathy with Mr. Watson's insults against such eminent American citizens as Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Ireland and others. Having, however, received no response and noticing that your advertisement appears in the June issue, we feel that our first communication must have been overlooked. We now ask you to give this matter your serious consideration and apprise us of your conclusions, so that we can inform the American Catholics what firms are in sympathy with, and opposed to, Watson's insults against the Catholics.

Anticipating an early response, I am

Yours "In the name of the Federation of Catholic Societies,"

(Signed) ANTHONY MATRE,
National Secretary.

See the veiled threat in this **second** letter to our patrons?

The rascal had written once before, but got no reply. Then he watches for our June number, and writes again.

Virtually he says, in this second letter:

"I have written you once, warning you to quit advertising in **Watson's Magazine.** I see by the June number that you have not heeded my warning. Now, I give you another chance to obey me: If you defy me I will report you to all of our federated societies throughout the United States, and you will be made to feel our resentment."

That's a nice state of affairs in free America, isn't it?

I have not "insulted" any church or any individual Christian. My exposure of the heathen origin of Roman Catholicism is no insult to anything save organized Fraud and imposture.

There isn't a scholar living who can refute my statements. There isn't one who will try. The educated men of the Roman priesthood **know** that I am telling nothing but the truth.

There is much more to be told, and I mean to tell it, if God spares my life.

It is a national calamity that these Mary-worshipping idolaters were ever allowed to set up their heathenish church in this Protestant country. Not a single one of these priests is or can be a loyal American citizen.

They have lost out in Europe; they are hated and despised in Mexico and South America; they don't dare parade the streets of Rome, Italy, without military protection; but in this land of liberty they have become dominant in the Supreme Court, in the Army, and in the White House!

God have mercy on us! Our future is black with storm-clouds.

OBSERVATIONS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL

(Special to The Watsonian)

Washington, D. C., July, 1927.

Adolfo de la Huerta, ex-President of Mexico, erstwhile liberal and foe of priestcraft and profiteering, and now the titular leader of the forces of superstition and reaction in "La Tierra de las Aztecas," is under indictment, charged with conspiracy to violate the neutrality laws of the United States. He is accused of shipping arms and ammunition to rebels below the border so that they might overthrow the government of President Calles. He denies guilt—as was to be expected—but in the same breath proudly predicts that the people (?) of the country from which he fled, will some of these days rise up and oust Calles and his cabinet.

Let nobody except believers in fairy tales think for a moment that De la Huerta is going to be convicted. The spokesman of oil and holy water has too many influential friends in the United States to get a jail sentence. He was arrested and indicted, we venture to say, either because certain Department of Justice agents in the Southwest took their duties seriously and honestly sought to procure the punishment of a man they considered a law violator, or because the invisible government that rules this country felt it necessary to pretend that American officials are as diligent against anti-Calles plotters as against enemies of Mussolini. Regardless of which explanation is the correct one, De la Huerta has as little prospect of going to Atlanta or Leavenworth as your Washington corerspondent has of going to the planet Mars in the next few days.

The attempts of the Vatican and Wall Street to incite the Yaqui Indians of Sonora to serious resistance against the Calles government —to which we made reference in last month's Watsonian—have not been as fruitful as was anticipated. The garrison at Nogales did not surrender at the beck and call of the rebels. The scheme to seize summary control of border towns has not worked yet. The Mexican federal authorities are still firmly in the saddle. Calles is shrewd, vigorous and energetic. He lets no grass grow under his feet. In the face of fearful odds and cunningly-schemed, well-financed plots, he is still Chief Magistrate of the United States of Mexico. Even the rankest reactionary must acknowledge Calles' masterly management of a dynamite-loaded situation.

The movement to elect ex-President Alvaro Obregon as Calles' successor in 1928 proceeds steadily. Various agrarian, labor, Socialist, liberal and anti-Catholic groups have endorsed Obregon. He will undoubtedly be elected by an overwhelming majority. His triumph will mean a continuation to large extent of the Calles policies. He is undoubtedly more friendly to business interests but he is, none the less, not the kind of a man Romanism and plutocracy would like to see ruling Mexico.

Obregon's opponent in the Mexican Presidential campaign will, it is thought, be General Arnulfo Gomez, commander-in-chief of the government military operations in the state of Vera Cruz. Gomez is the pet of the semi-Fascist landlords' organization called the "Sindicato de Agricultores." In breaking strikes and reducing the peasants to virtual feudalism, Gomez is an expert. Some years ago he dominated the state of Tamaulipas, which contains the chief oil wells, and he was hand-in-glove with the petroleum profiteers.

In the 1928 election Gomez will be the "legal" leader of the Papists and oil gang, attempting to win the Presidency by electoral methods—which cannot be done, since easily 75% of the Mexican people will back a liberal against a reactionary. While Gomez is the open and "legal" leader, De la Huerta, a fugitive in the United States, will continue to be the idol of the "illegal" movement which found classic expression in the hideous burning of the passenger-packed train near Guadalajara.

Legally or illegally, by fair means or foul, Rome and Wall Street want to check the advance of political and religious liberty in Mexico. They are still busy with their infamous machinations. Conscientious Americans should keep their eyes open and decline to be fooled by fair appearances. They should also demand the prosecution and punishment of Adolfo de la Huerta and his associates.

———O———

Seldom has the "Brass Check" press demonstrated its true character more clearly than in the Lindbergh case. The "conspiracy of silence" regarding the magnificent courage and idealism of the young aviator's father extends from coast to coast. For all that the newspapers say, the flier might never have had a father, or his father might have been so disrequtable as to merit being utterly ignored.

The truth of the matter is that Congressman Charles A. Lindbergh was one of the most uncompromisingly honest Progressives who ever sat in Congress. For 10 years he served in the House of Representatives, resisting every intrigue and fraud of the plunderbund. When the World War came and the most deliberate, unscrupul-

ous and efficient propaganda of lies in human history flung the American people into that seething maelstrom, Mr. Lindberg was one of the immortal irreconcilables who refused to endorse the international crime. He stood side by side with Thomas E. Watson and others in that small but splendid group that "would not compromise with hell. but damned it with every deed and word."

In that momentous time when a few public men of principle wrote and spoke against American participation in the war, Congressman Lindbergh published a book of 300 or 400 pages, "Why We Are at War," in which he scathingly denounced the Wilsonian apostasy. He also pointed out with admirable clearness the economic reasons which actuated the "patrioteers" who helped push us into the slaughter-house of nations. That book is now out of print, as are several excellent books of that period. This is not unusual. But it is unusual for the press to say nothing of the father of a young man who has made a glorious record for himself, especially when that father was a national legislator for 10 years. If Lindbergh, Senior, had been in favor of the war, his name would now be trumpeted from the house tops. Because he kept his head amid what Scott Nearing called "The Great Madness," the prostitute newspapers seek to consign his memory to oblivion.

There are a few publications that have been decent enough to make respectful mention of the elder Lindbergh. Most of them are labor journals. The Scripps-Howard papers have been honorable exceptions to the general rule and have reminded their readers that the air hero is the son of a man who opposed the late tragedy. The rest of the press has devoted columns of space to personal gossip about the young captain and his mother that must be sickening to them, but says not one word about the fearless Congressman.

It is worthy of recollection that one of the most enormous campaign funds in American history was spent to defeat Lindbergh when he ran as Nonpartisan League candidate for Governor of Minnesota.

It is also significant that he was a severe critic of superstition and priestcraft and had won the enmity of the Roman Catholic Church by resisting its intrigues in state politics.

Aviator Lindbergh has nerve, vision and modesty. America is rightfully proud of him. It is but natural that such a son should come from a sire who showed himself a man's man in a time of almost universal hysteria, cowardice and bullying.

———O———

The process of "Christianizing" China—by foreign guns, rum,

opium and starvation wages paid by American and European capitalists to Chinese workers—goes serenely on.

Although prostitution is illegal in the International Settlement of Shanghai, three bawdy houses have been opened near the race track, according to a dispatch from the Nationalist News Agency at Shanghai. It is stated that many Chinese girls under 15 years of age are confined in these houses of ill-fame under the guard of British military police. The reports are that only British and American soldiers are allowed to enter. Women's clubs and other organizations are protesting indignantly but to little effect. Imperialism must carry on its work of straightening out "backward peoples" and making them graciously consent to being robbed. The soldiers who enforce acquiescence must have "creature comforts"—and they are getting them!

———O———

William Gibbs McAdoo, after opening a law office in Washington, has returned to the front page of the newspapers. His renewed activity troubles the supporters of "Al" Smith, who now foresee a formidable McAdoo following again in the national convention of the Democratic Party next year. It is not expected that McAdoo can be nominated but it is highly probable that he can upset the calculations of the Smith-ites considerably.

Chester C. Platt, one-time secretary to Governor William Sulzer of New York, owner of the Times of Batavia, N. Y., and for the past year or so a resident of St. Petersburg, Fla., recently dropped in McAdoo's office here. Sulzer was impeached and kicked out of the Governorship of New York in 1913 in a farcical court procedure that was properly characterized a judicial lynching. Smith was speaker of the Assembly at that time. Tammany Hall, the Roman Catholic Church, the prison grafters, the highway contractors and the railroad interests were gleeful when Sulzer was ejected, and Lieutenant Governor Martin H. Glynn, a Catholic, succeeded him. Sulzer is now practicing law in New York. He has paid little attention to politics since his political crucifixion, but there is always the possibility of a comeback.

Platt lived in Wisconsin several years following the impeachment, and frequently travels abroad. He is one of the country's genuinely able men, editor, thinker, and an earnest progressive Democrat. His call on McAdoo may or may not have been significant, but it is interesting just now.

There is no present reason for modifying my prediction of last month that Coolidge will be renominated next year and that, after

another nasty wrangle, the Democrats will turn once more to a compromise candidate—perhaps Donahey of Ohio. There will undoubtedly be a labor party or a farmer-labor party in the field. Such a party may outrun the Democratic Party and put it in the position of the Whig Party in the late fifties.

Mark Hanna prophesied a coming struggle between a capitalistic Republican Party into which reactionary Democrats would go, and a radical anti-plutocratic party which Democratic workers and farmers would enter.

As the commander-in-chief of the battalions of predatory wealth 31 years ago, Mark Hanna was a shrewd observer.

Will the forecast of 1896 come true?

———o———

Public condemnation of the Coolidge administration for its failure to call Congress in special session to deal adequately with the Mississippi flood situation is bitter and rightly so.

The political advisers of the man in the White House know that a special session might lead to unpleasant investigations of the Coolidge-Kellogg policy regarding Mexico, Nicaragua, China and some other matters which they prefer to have left alone. Therefore, there will be no special session.

Millions of dollars of public money have been wasted on flood defenses that are no defenses at all—as evidenced by the recent loss of life and property. The grafters have had a saturnalia of money-spending and money-getting. Their pockets have been lined. As for the suffering inhabitants of the Mississippi Valley, let them answer the classic question that Boss Tweed used to fling back at his critics, "What are you going to do about it?"

Until there are certain fundamental changes, the victims can do **nothing** about it.

But abuses do not last always and changes **do** come.

"I tremble for my country," wrote Thomas Jefferson, "when I reflect that God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever."

FORTITUDE

BY

THOMAS E. WATSON

Ed Note: This article was written by Mr. Watson while attending college at Mercer University, revised and printed in the Jeffersonian Magazine in 1907, and placed in Prose Miscellanies.

Do not become **discouraged!** Don't lose heart.

You may not be able to see the harvest where you have patiently sown the seed, but be assured of this! **No seed is lost.**

The truthful word manfuly spoken, the earnest effort honestly made, the noble creed consistently held,—these are things which do not perish; they live on and move the world and mould the destinies of men long after you are dust.

Leave cowardice to the cowards; leave servility to the slaves. Be a man—proud, though in homespun; free, though in a hut.

Own your own soul!

Dare to listen to your own heartbeat. Between you and God's sunlight, **let no shadow of fear fall.**

What is there to live for if you are never to think, never to speak, never to act, save as the echo of some master you dread? Better the death of the brave than the long misery of the mental serf.

Not **always** is it easy to know the right,—very often is the road rough. **Human praise** can be won by shorter routes. Honors and riches are not always its rewards. Pleasanter days and calmer nights may be yours, if you float smoothly down the tide of **policy,**—steering deftly by the rules of the **expedient.**

But has life nothing loftier than this? Is there no divine voice within you that calls for better things? Is there no great pulse-beat of **duty** within you,—no flame of the warrior spirit when insolent wrong flings its gage of battle at your feet?

Are you willing that the Right shall call for aid, and **you** give no succor; that Truth shall plead for help, and **you** bear no witness?

Is the sacred torch of Liberty—passed on from hand to hand down

the ages in which brave men dared to keep it lit—to find **you** unwilling to hold it aloft?

Shall the temple of civil freedom, reared by the great men who are gone, stand vacant,—calling mutely, calling vainly for votaries at the shrine?

Was it all a mockery,—this long struggle your forefathers made for Justice? Is it an idle tale—this story of the heroism with which the rights of the people were slowly won?

Not so—not so! Levity may slight, and ignorance may disregard the blessed heir-looms of human endeavor, of patriotic purpose, of high-minded self-sacrifice,—**but they are there**, and LIKE THE SIGNAL FIRES OF THE HIGHLANDS, they call heroic hearts to DUTY!

You may have desponded, but you must not despair. You may have stumbled, but you must not fall. You will rouse yourself, and press forward. **You will do your duty**—for that is your religion.

If Wrong triumphs, it shall not claim **you** as a partner in the crime.

If the light dies out in the homes of the people, the curses of the unhappy shall not blast your name.

You will be a man,—**loyal, fearless, independent, ready for work, and** LOYAL to the LAST to the creed which **your** heart approves.

Men like these,—and no others,—won every treasure in the storehouse of liberty, every jewel in the crown of good government, every thread in the golden tissue of religious and political freedom.

Men like these, and no others,—are going to keep alive the sacred fires our fathers kindled, are going to stamp out the foul heresies that imperil our rights, **are going to fight to the death** those who would turn back the march of human happiness, and are going to re-dedicate this government to the principles upon which it was founded!

Stand firm and fear not.

From underneath the weight of every failure, **rise and** COME AGAIN.

Brave men, who are **nothing more** than brave, rush into the combat, get worsted and quit.

Brave men, who are something **more** than brave, take no defeat as final.

The Watsonian

"Not until tyrants have found a way to kill justice and to chain the thoughts of men will they ever be able to put bad laws where they are safe for the future."—Thos. E. Watson.

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GEORGIA WATSON LEE, Editor
WALTER J. BROWN,
Business Manager and Associate Editor

JULY — 1927

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Editorial Notes

* * *

FARM FEUDALISM:

Speaking in Nashville, Dr. Wm. E. Dodd of the University of Chicago predicted "degeneration to peasantry of the American farmer and free tenant. He said in brief:

The only hope of the agricultural class—a political welding of Southern and Western farmers—is improbable because their fathers fought on opposite sides in the Civil War.

Co-operative marketing, controlled production and effective legislation seem all to have failed. The farmers now number some 40 per cent of the population and frantically hope to direct the national policy.

A reasonable return for farm products, might be obtained by setting up a new "farm feudalism" under which farms would be operated as industrial units by the wealthy.

We would then have dirty, ill-clad men and women, millions of them, producing foodstuffs for the great country of Washington and Jefferson.

Will it be as bad as this? **Surely not.**

Prof. Dodd says there can not be a political union between the South and the West. Let us reminisce back to the years following 1890.

The Farmers' Alliance in the West was composed of men who had always voted the Republican ticket. Under no circumstances would they enter the Democratic party. The Alliance in the South was made up of life-long Democrats. Under no circumstances would they vote the Republican ticket.

The Civil War was too recent, the prejudices growing out of the conflict still rankled, therefore, it was necessary to find a common ground upon which these men out of the different sections and parties could vote together. Out of the necessity, the Peoples Party was born in 1891.

Democrat and Republican, Blue and Gray got together, in

splendid spirit; and it is not only touching but inspiring to think of the old fellows throwing their arms about one another in the national conventions of the third party. A finer body of men never united for a nobler purpose. They asked no favors, no special privileges. All in God's world they wanted, was Justice, Equality—laws which would not rob them of their produce as fast as they made it. This is all they ask today.

"Equal rights for all; special privileges for none!" was the slogan cheered from sea to sea by millions of men who feed the country in times of peace, and protect it in times of war.

Did they get together then? They did and were headed for a victory until the Populists nominated Bryan and Watson and the Democrats Bryan and Seward. Had the Democratic leaders shown ever so small a share of patriotism and stuck by the combined ticket as they had agreed to do at St. Louis a different nation would exist in America today. But they did not and they destroyed Populism as an organization though we have today many splendid laws which we owe to the Populist party.

In 1900, 1904, and 1908, they attempted to "start over," but it could not be done, "the water had passed over the wheel and gone."

The point we are trying to prove is that there can be a "political welding between the South and the West."

Whether there is sufficient courage among the people of these two great sections, and whether we have within a man who has sufficient ability and spirit of convictions to lead, we do not know. But before the Southern and Western farmer shall "degenerate to peasantry" there will either be a third party patterned as a child of the Populist party or **there will be a revolution.** The pendulum will swing so far but when it starts back, **LOOK OUT!**

—o—

There is another condition existing in our nation which can not be overlooked and that is the Roman Catholic Church entrenched so deeply in our Government on account of favoritism of both the old parties. In America the farmer may only number 40% but America is still PROTESTANT. A combination between the agricultural and protestant classes would produce a party strong enough to cast aside **the papal yoke of Rome** and destroy the **damnable trusts** which are eating the very core out of this nation established "by the people and for the people."

When this is done our America will be a credit to its fathers, Washington and Jefferson, who

exercised their every effort to **prevent such a condition as exists today.**

* * *

FALSE OPTIMISM:

"There is no cloud on the business horizon of America; unquestionably good conditions prevail throughout the country with not a flow to check the general prosperity. Higher prices are seen for cotton," so said M. B. Wellborn, Governor of the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank.

Mr. Wellborn is either insincere or uninformed.

If he will investigate he will find that 75% of the Southern farms are under heavy mortgage by Northern capital; that the Southern farmer, on account of droughts, floods, and low prices for produce were hardly able to meet the demands of the guano trust in paying a high cash price for his fertilizer during the past spring; that the cotton farmer was compelled to sell his cotton for less than 10c when the cost of production was more than 20c; that the condition which effected the farmer then is just now reaching the cities, and that there is more unemployed in Atlanta now than at any other time since the deflation following the world war.

It is disgusting to hear these financiers **talk prosperity when there is no prosperity.** The South today is in worse condition than at any other time since the Civil War and any posted man who will speak the truth will say so.

Easy it is for the **money-men** to sit in a cushioned chair in an office cooled by electric fans and **cry prosperity,** but if before releasing these "fairy tales" to the public they would consult a few of the boys between the plow handles on this hot July day they would be enlightened as to the real conditions existing in the South.

The farming classes need help, and need it badly. All business in the South indirectly depends on the condition of the farmer and when there is no prosperity among them there is none in the city—**mark that.** They do not ask for a pension but only ask for protection against the hellish moneyed interests which have bled the **poor farmer** until his home is gone, his family uneducated, and in many cases not properly physically developed on account of not having wholesome food.

What is the solution? Is it a THIRD PARTY!!!?

* * *

LINDBERGH'S FATHER:

Elsewhere in this issue our Washington correspondent has given some very interesting information concerning the father of the young man who startled the world by his bravery, his ability as an aviator, and his

knowledge of navigation, in piloting his ship, "The Spirit of St. Louis," single-handed across the ocean from New York to Paris in 33 hours, he has accomplished the greatest feat since the Discovery of America many editorial writers think.

Mr. Lindbergh, Sr., was a Farmer-Labor Congressman from Missouri and was one of that group whose convictions were identical with Mr. Watson along many issues. He fought the trusts, Wall Street and opposed bitterly the recent world war.

While so very much is being said by the press regarding Lindbergh, Jr., and his mother we wonder why they say practically nothing concerning the brilliant father whose record in Congress is gratifying to the men who followed Watson, LaFollette and other reformers. Is it because the very financial institutions, the very papal interference, which Mr. Lindbergh, Sr., fought so hard, controls the press?

It took pluck and faith for Lindbergh' Jr., to crawl in the cabin of his airplane in New York and brave the dangers ahead in his determined effort to reach Paris. Yes, and it took conviction and fortitude to wage an almost single-handed fight on the floor of Congress against such powerful institutions as Wall Street, the trusts, and the Roman Catholic Church.

Lindbergh, Jr., is truly a chip off the old block.

* * *

AVIATION:

What is the political significance of Lindbergh's and Chamberlain's non-stop flight across the ocean into foreign land? Is it not a proof that the next war will be fought and won in the AIR.

In Augusta, Ga., the other day there stood on the aviation field four old worn out bombing planes. Sixteen young American boys were in command as members of Uncle Sam's flying forces. It seems that they were on test flights from Langley Field, Ky., to points South.

After making the hop-off in their departure one of the planes developed engine trouble and they were compelled to make a forced landing. In so doing they came in contact with some high voltage power lines and the four men in the plane were electrocuted. Before help could reach them they were burned so badly that they could be identified only by their metal tags which hung around their necks.

By investigating it was learned that all four of these planes had seen service in France during the world war. **Was it right to send these young men into the sky with ships over ten years old?**

We are against maintaining a

large army and navy during time of peace but **aviation** is different. It is a new invention and the government should lend every aid in building up an air defense which will protect the people from the enemy should a war occur. After factories have been equipped to manufacture airplanes of the best kind and we have sufficient trained men to fly them there will be no need of maintaining a large air force. But there is no time to lose until this is done.

THE OFFICIAL RECORD AS TO THE ORIGIN OF THE R. F. D. SYSTEM

AN EDITORIAL

The press is making a point to see that Thomas E. Watson gets no credit for any of his constitutional legislation which he enacted or used his influence to have enacted.

As we see it this effort on the part of many is not a slap at Mr. Watson as much as it is Third Partyites. It will be remembered that out of the Peoples Party platform there came many laws which are now on our statute books such as the recall, direct election, Rural Free Delivery of Mails, and numerous others. The latter is the legislation that we wish to discuss again.

After the dispatch out of Washington a few weeks ago giving Perry S. Heath full credit for the Rural Free Delivery of Mails we received letters from our friends all over the United States asking us to deny this statement. After replying to the dispatch in The Watsonian we decided to print up several hundred copies of our reply and mail to the various daily papers. Of course only a very few carried our statement but we felt that it was our duty to try to correct the false impression as far as possible.

Why can not these press writers and reporters stick to the truth. We dare say that there is not an editor of any of the papers which carried the Heath dispatch who does not know who is the real father of Rural Free Delivery. If they do not we would suggest that they turn to the Congressional Record for February 17th, 1893, and they will get the fact without having to depend on our word or the word of anybody else.

In 1892, there was a law establishing the free delivery of rural mail; but the P. O. Department construed this to mean towns and villages, **out in the country.** To men like John Wannamaker, who were reared in big cities, like Philadelphia and New York, a small town of a couple of thousand inhabitants, looked "rural" enough to fulfill the requirement of the law in favor of "rural free delivery."

So it stood until Mr. Watson was sent to Congress. In the long session of 1892, he endeavored to amend the P. O. Appropriation bill by the insertion of a mandatory clause, making it the duty of the Posmaster General to use some of the money in experimenting with the free delivery of mail, **outside** of cities, towns and villages.

At this session Lon Livingston tried to do the same thing. They both failed.

Then the November elections came on. Mr. Livington was re-elected: Mr. Watson was thrown out. They both went back to the short session, which expires by law on 4th of March. Mr. Livingston did not renew the fight for a truly rural R. F. D. Mr. Watson did, and with success.

The official Record, as quoted by the late Senator Clay in the U. S. Senate, on February 23, 1903, shows that, on February 17, 1893, the following running discussion taken place on the floor of the House, in consequence of Mr. Watson having offered the amendment to the P. O. Bill a second time:

"For free delivery service, including existing experimental free delivery offices, $11,254,943, of which sum $10,000 shall be applied, under the direction of the Postmaster-General, to experimental free delivery in rural communities other than towns and villages."

Mr. Holman: I reserve a point of order on that amendment.

Mr. Watson: This reduces the expenditure provided for in the bill.

Mr. Henderson of North Carolina: I desire to reserve a point of order.

The Chairman: A point of order has already been reserved.

Mr. Watson: Mr. Chairman, the paragraph under consideration provides for the expenditure of $11,254,943 for free delivery service. My amendment reduces the amount of that expenditure and simply directs that the Postmaster-General shall apply $10,000 of the appropriation to experimental free delivery in rural communities.

Mr. Loud: That is already provided for; the gentleman will accomplish nothing by his amendment.

Mr. Watson: It is not provided for in rural districts other than towns and villages. There is no experimental service in rural communities other than towns and villages.

Mr. Buchanan of New Jersey: You mean "truly rural."

Mr. Watson: Yes, sir; the real country.

Mr. Holman: I think there is some misapprehension as to the law on this subject. I would like to ask the gentleman from North Carolina in charge of this bill what the existing law is?

Mr. Henderson of North Carolina: There is no law on the subject providing for rural free delivery or experiments in that direction. There is a law which provides for experiments in small towns and villages, and forty-eight of these now have free delivery. That condi-

tion is preserved in this bill, but no provision is made for rural free delivery.

Mr. Watson: The present law provides for an experimental delivery in rural communities; but as I understand it—and the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Henderson), makes the same statement to the House—the law has been construed to mean cities, towns, and villages, and there are now in operation experimental free deliveries in certain towns and villages.

The law expressly provides for rural communities, and it seems to me where the general laws make such provision there is no hardship in taking a small amount from the appropriation, only $10,000, and appropriating it for experimental free delivery in absolutely rural communities; that is to say, in the country, pure and simple, amongst the farmers in those neighborhoods where they do not get their mail more than once in every two weeks, and where these deserving people have settled in communities one hundred years old and do not receive a newspaper that is not two weeks behind the times.

"The amendment was adopted by a vote of 79 ayes to 41 nays."

On the first vote, the amendment was voted down. Mr. Watson changed the resolution slightly, debated it further, secured another vote, and won.

Ex-Senator Marion Butler, another who claims to be the "Father" of the present R. F. D. system, did not become a member of Congress until several years afterwards. It was the **third** appropriation for the R. F. D. that Butler passed through the Senate.

Your special attention is called to the fact that Chairman Henderson notified the House that **there was no law which then required Mr. Watson's amendment was intended to have the Government undertake.**

In short, Mr. Watson's amendment was new legislation—the small beginning of a great system which blesses millions of his countrymen.

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY

BY

THOS. E. WATSON

CHAPTER V.

Lord Macaulay's admission; Evidence showing the apostle Peter was not the first pope; Gregory's letter to Eulogius.

Lord Macaulay, in his discussion of Ranke's "History of the Popes," either purposely or accidentally made the admission that they are the successors of St. Peter. Probably this is the main reason why his works have never been entered upon the Index of literature forbidden to good Catholics.

In reviewing Ranke's great work, it was not necessary for Macaulay to make an investigation of this historical truth of the tremendously important words that he casually used. Ranke's studies and narrative began with medieval popes, ages after the papal usurpation had established itself.

The whole superstructure of the Catholic Hierarchy and the popedom rests upon the contention that Peter was the prince of the apostles; that Christ recognized him as such, and declared that he would found his church upon him; that Peter established the Church of Rome and was pope of it for more than twenty-five years. If it can be shown that either one of the above statements *is false,* the whole Catholic position is made untenable.

Now, let us reason together, using our common sense upon these religious questions, as we would concerning disputed points in profane history, or upon matters of everyday occurrence. Let us endeavor to free our minds of bias and prejudice, and to treat the question without any reference to what we have been taught on the subject, or what may be the prevalent opinion.

In order that you may have the full benefit of whatever strength there is in my line of argument, we must come to an understanding as to how the Bible was put together. The Talmud informs us that the books containing the Jewish traditions were remodeled by different writers, at different times, and were rewritten and given their final touches by Ezra, four hundred and forty-four years before Christ. So much for the Old Testament.

The New Testament did not assume its present shape until about

three hundred and sixty years after Christ, when the Council of Loadicea undertook to separate the true from the spurious gospels.

According to Renan, ("History of the Origins of Christianity") the text of the four gospels, even, was not settled until 180 years after the Crucifixion. Prior to that time, these gospels had been subject to alteration, after having lived in the memories of the apostles and their immediate disciples, for two generations after Christ. It seems fair to assume that the well-known text in the New Testament which *forbids further alteration,* was inserted by the Fathers, who met in general council at Laodicea. The fact that there *is* such an apparently unnecessary inhibition, warrants the conclusion, *that the text had been too often tampered with,* as the sacred books passed from hand to hand.

Now, then, doesn't your common sense convince you that, at this early period, when frequent alterations were being made in the New Testament by the early Fathers of the Catholic Church, they would have inserted something about the primacy of Peter, and his being the base upon which the Christian church rested, if, *in fact,* there were, *at that time,* any claims for Peter's pre-eminence and infallibiliy?

Would they not at least have suppressed such portions of the Bible as prove conclusively that Peter was neither pre-eminent nor infallible? Would they have allowed to remain in the sacred text those verses which show that *Peter never claimed anything more than an equality with the other disciples?* and that if any of the original workers seemed to regard himself as more important than the others, *it was Paul?*

Bear in mind that the Fathers of the Catholic Church gave the New Testament its present form about 363 years after Christ—the four Gospels having been perfected about 180 years prior to that time. You are bound to admit that if Peter, who could not possibly have been alive later than seventy years after Christ, was pope of Rome for twenty-five years before his death, *that stupendously important fact would have been known to the other apostles.*

According to the Catholic position, the papal chair had been established by Peter and occupied by him for more than a quarter of a century, before the first of the gospels—Matthew—was put in writing. *How can you explain the failure of the authors of those four Gospels, to mention the fact—if it had been a fact—of the papacy which Peter had established in Rome?*

If it should be argued that such a statement had no proper place in the four Gospels, let us ask why we find no mention of it, *in the Acts of the Apostles?* Amid the mass of unessential and apparently personal and trivial detail contained in that narrative, *how does it happen that we*

are not informed of the tremendous work done by Peter in the Eternal City? Why is it that the very book which describes the travels, the achievements, the very conversations and personal visits of those consecrated missionaries, *should leave out the most important thing that had been done?* Why should we be told of Paul's visit to Peter's house in Jerusalem, and be left in ignorance of Peter's prodigious work and prolonged primacy in Rome? Why do the very records which tell us that Peter's moter-in-law was sick, *fail to mention that Peter was Pope?* These questions are unanswerable.

But there are other internal evidences that Peter was not the chief of the apostles, that he made no such pretensions, and that he did not establish a papacy at Rome, or elsewhere.

(1.) The church at Jerusalem ordered him about, from place to place and from field to field, just as it did the other apostles; and he obeyed, without questioning the church's authority.

(2.) He was specially commissioned to work among the Jews, just as Paul was among the Gentiles.

(3.) The fact that Christ did not intend to make any distinction among his disciples, is proven by His words of rebuke on that very subject; and by His express command, that no such title as seemed to imply superiority should be given.

(4.) *If Peter* had understood that he was made the chief of the apostles and the foundation stone of the church of Christ, *there would be some evidence of it in his life, or his work, or his epistles.* You will not find it in the record of his life, and you find overwhelming evidence against it in his work and his epistles. His life was that of a co-equal apostle; his work was that of a servant of the church; and in his letter to the Romans he expressly calls himself one of the twelve apostles. Again, he says (in II. Peter, V. 1), "The elders who are among you, *I* exhort, who also *am an elder.*"

(5) Had he been the pope of a universal church at Rome, he would not have addressed his epistle to the Jews, the strangers scattered throughout the countries he named: nor would it have failed to contain some internal evidence that he was the primate of the Christians, the personal representative of Christ on earth.

(6.) The contention of the Catholics would make Peter the pope of Rome, at the time Paul was there for two years, preaching the gospel and living in his own hired house. The papacy and the work of Peter would have been in existence there fourteen or fifteen years. The two apostles were such friends that Paul had spent fifteen days

with Peter at the latter's home in Jerusalem: yet we are not told that *they ever met in Rome!*

There is another thing to consider: when Paul had been in Rome a few days, he summoned a meeting of the most prominent Jews of the City, and, while together, they asked him eagerly to give them information concerning the new sect, (the Christians) indicating by their question that they had heard nothing definite and nothing favorable of a people whose faith was novel, and unpopular. If Peter, a Jew, had been preaching among the Jews of Rome for so many years, and had established himself there as a pope, *is it not inconceivable that the facts would not have been generally known among the Children of Israel who lived in the Eternal City?*

(7.) When Paul went to Jerusalem, the original disciples refused to admit him to their ranks as an equal. With manly courage and independence, he protested. That was the first effort to establish exclusiveness and authority; and it was made, not by Peter alone, but by all the original disciples. *Paul stood for equality, and won.*

How is his victory to be reconciled with the primacy and overlordship claimed for Peter?—and what was Peter doing on the floor, with James presiding over the council and announcing decisions, during that first general conference of the disciples?

(8.) It would be doing violence to our conception of Christ to believe that he could put one of his disciples over the other, unless the apostle so favored was endowed by nature with qualities which justified his selection. Do you find anything in Holy Writ tending to prove that Peter deserved such a distinction? He appears to have been a warm-blooded man, kind of heart, choleric of temper, full of good intentions and zeal, but fickle. Quick to clip that servant's ear with his sword, he was equally hasty in denying his Lord after his passion had cooled. When the disciples scattered, he was one of the fugitives; and he was also one of the sleepy-headed trio who couldn't keep awake, although piteously prayed to do so, when their Master was sweating blood in the Garden of Gethsemane.

(9.) The Bible tells us that Peter had been thrown in prison by Herod, in Judea, at the very time when the Catholics say he was in the papal chair at Rome. *Which will you believe—the Bible or the papists?*

(10.) During the alleged pontificate of Peter, all the Jews were ordered out of Rome by the Emperor Claudius. This would put upon the Catholics the necessity of explaining how so prominent a Jew, as Pope Peter must have been, secured an exemption from the imperial decree. His being a Christian would have been an aggravation, for at

that time the hatred felt for the new sect was intensifying into the deadly virulence that led to the persecutions, not long afterwards.

(11.) The Apostle John distinctly avers in Revelations that *the church of Christ is founded on the twelve apostles.* That the other original disciples were of the same opinion, is shown by two significant things: *their election of a successor to Judas, and their attempt to exclude Paul.* They evidently thought that Christ meant this when He chose twelve, instead of one; and when He always expounded His creed to them *collectively,* instead of *separately.*

When Peter in his Epistle, (1st Peter, 5:13) places himself at Babylon, that seems to furnish positive proof that was located on the Euphrates and not on the Tiber—that he was laboring among the Jews of the East, and not among the Gentiles of the West. However, the Roman casuists are equal to the emergency: they say that Peter was verily at Rome and referred to it as Babylon, in the Apocalyptic sense.

As Peter knew nothing of the Apocalypse, the casuists are not even plausible.

Take a map of the East, and see *the position of Antioch,* where Peter is known to have been engaged in his missionary labors. Note how close it is to the river that flows into Babylonia. What more natural than that Peter, *the Apostle to the circumcised,* should go by boat to that region, *where there were more Jews, than in Palestine?*

But the Romanists say, there was no such place as Babylon, at the time Peter wrote his Epistle.

But there *was!*

True, it was only a squalid town, compared to the imperial city of old, but its name was the same as in the days of its glory.

We are told by Roman historians that there were so many Jews in Babylonia, they led the revolt against Rome, after the death of Trajan, and freed some of the conquests he had made.

Therefore, the Catholic argument against the presence of Peter in Babylon, *where he says he was,* falls flat.

To make out their case, they need to put him in Rome, at the very time that he, *and the* Bible, place him on the Euphrates.

What a pity it is for the papacy that *the Council which made the Bible did not know that the papists would want Peter in Rome, at the time he was in Babylon!*

The Bible contains other evidence against the one-man power claimed by Rome, but these instances must suffice.

After Constantine had effected the union of Church and State,

and the Emperor Julian had made his futile effort to restore paganism, it became the burning ambition of the Bishops of Rome to acquire for themselves the monopoly of riches, power, and prestige which the Pontifex Maximus had lost. No historical trace can be discovered to prove that such a design had ever been harbored by a Christian bishop prior to the compact with Constantine. Absolute equality reigned among the bishops, excepting a greater respect and admiration which it was natural to pay to those prelates who enjoyed a greater reputation for piety, oratory, or scholarship. So late as A. D. 533, we find the Fifth General Council, held in Constantinople, presided over by Menna, the Patriarch of that city. In fact, we do not find the Bishop of Rome presiding at all, until after the seventh century.

As to the title of Pope, we find it expressly repudiated by a Bishop of Rome nearly six hundred years after Christ.

In answer to a letter which he had received from Eulogius of Alexandria, who had called Gregory of Rome "a universal bishop," Gregory replied: "I have said that neither to me nor to any one else ought you to write anything of the kind. And lo! in the preface of your letter you apply to me, who prohibited it, the proud title of 'universal pope'; which thing I beg your most sweet holiness to do no more, because what is given to others beyond what reason requires is subtracted from you. I do not esteem that an honor by which I know that my brethren lose their honor. I am then truly honored when all and each are allowed the honor that is due them. For if your holiness calls me universal pope, you deny yourself to be that which you call universal (that is, your own self to be no pope). But no more of this; away with words which inflate pride and wound charity." He even objects to the expression: "as thou hast commanded," which occurred in his correspondent's letter. "Which word 'commanded' I pray you to let me hear no more; for I know what I am and what you are; in position you are my brethren, in manners you are my father. I did not, therefore, command, but desired only to indicate what seemed to be inexpedient."

This was 590 years after Christ!

Priestly pride and arrogance were not confined to Rome: the Patriarch of Constantinople had his ambition and aspirations also. In fact, the supreme head of the Greek church in Russia owes his preeminence, historically speaking, to the pretensions originally put forth by the Patriarch of the Capital City of the Eastern Empire.

It must be perfectly clear to your mind that unless the Catholic Hierarchy can establish an unbroken succession to Peter, their founda-

tion falls to pieces. The next time you meet a priest you might ask him how the Pope can claim title through a predecessor who emphatically disowned it, as Gregory the Great did.

The papal contention is, that they possess an indestructible chain, reaching back, link by link, to Peter: if you will search the Scriptures, and historical authorities, you will verify every position taken in this chapter, and will discover, that *popery is a comparatively modern invention.*

Macaulay was pleased to almost give it immortality, backwards and forwards; but, as a matter of fact, there are many houses belonging to the European nobility that are much more ancient—especially is this true of the aristocracy of Venice. If you will go to the tents of the Arabs, you will find ivory tablets which trace back the pedigree of horses very much farther than any papal scholar can trace back the succession of the popes.

FROM THE PRESS

A PLAIN MAN'S VIEW OF AL SMITH

By Perry P. Tettick

(In the Sunday Record, Columbia S. C.)

Several years ago when the late Tom Watson of Georgia was at the high water mark of his journalistic fury against the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, it happened that the Saint Louis Cardinals were having good luck with their games. A newspaper man acidly commented: "Now Tom Watson will froth at the mouth for the Cardinals are on the rampage again."

Tom Watson did his anti-Catholic work well with his pugnacious Weekly Jeffersonian and his scrappy Watson's Monthly. All over the Bible Belt he left a host of readers who still think that the Pope's highest ambition this side of heaven is to "Make America Catholic" while the meddling Protestants of America meanwhile were to "Evangelize the World in This Generation." That the Knights of Columbus are a secret army of the Pope's "Swiss Guards," armed with thousands of rifles hidden away safely in numerous Catholic churches and nunneries, is a fond and fixed belief of Watson's faithful disciples. That Watson was a hard hitter was proved by the presence of scurrilous replies to his anti-Catholic arguments written across the pages of copies of his Watson's Monthly in the Chicago Public Library by unknown persons in 1910.

The Fundamentalists and the Ku Klux Klan have been busy carrying on Watson's work—and the fact is that amongst the yokelry of the South Al Smith is going to have rough sledding regardless of his personal merits. The better class of Southern papers do not find anything to criticise in Governor Smith's reply to Mr. Marshall's religious strictures. However, though Smith has deftly pulled out the teeth of their religious criticism, the denominational papers of the South are finding the insuperable obstacle (without which they could not exist) to his candidacy in his record as a wet. It does not take much perspicacity to see that religious animosity has not so easily been put aside —though there is an obvious attempt to hide it under a thinly disguised wet smoke screen.

The Rev. S. F. Conrad, an ardent Fundamentalist of Charlotte, N. C. (and all Fundamentalists are rank enemies of Evolution and Romanism), has submitted to the Charlotte Observer a list of all of Smith's wet activities in his past political life. This list appeared originally in the Winston-Salem Journal and was reprinted with hearty approval by the Biblical Recorder (N. C. Baptist paper).

In his letter to the Observer the Rev. Conrad says:

"The Baptists of North Carolina report in their 64 associations a membership of 375,767 at the last session of their State convention. With this record of Governor Smith, if he should get the Democratic nomination of president, will he have the shadow of a chance to carry North Carolina? Should it be an issue between a dry Republican and a wet Democrat, the Republicans would carry North Carolina by 250,000. Smith's record will defeat him in the South."

Thus we behold the Rev. S. F. Conrad, who believes in the complete separation of church and state, actively engaged in dry politics. (When a Catholic priest engages in politics who, then, does the howling?) Further, he even intimates that the 375,767 Baptists of North Carolina are all dry, and that they all stupidly endorse the complete slaughter of the Bill of Rights by the nefarious Prohibition Amendment. It is becoming clearer and clearer each day that the prohibition question is even greater than the religious question. Of course the two questions in this case go hand in hand in the minds of the religious element. Al Smith's candidacy has the great merit of bringing these two questions squarely before the public mind. To acute minds clericalism has already loomed large as a political element to be reckoned with in the future. James G. Blaine was defeated by "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion," said by another, and it remains

to be seen if Smith will lose through the "Rum and Romanism" issue.

Some years ago a liberal journal pointed out that the enemy to watch in politics was not the Roman Catholic Church but the Protestant church. The thought was new to me and I kept it under my hat. Though a Protestant, the events of the past fifteen years have convinced me that the various Protestant churches are doing more to undermine mental and religious liberty than ever the Catholics may have hoped to be able to do. The experience of the Roman Empire proves that all forms of dogmatic religion tend to become dangerous to a free and independent government. Subsequent political experience confirms Roman experience—facts of history are stubborn things! Of the two churches it can hardly be disputed that the Protestant churches collectively are a greater enemy of free American institutions than is the frankly autocratic Catholic church.

With a disarming and childish artlessness the Protestants assume that the free institutions of this country are their especial property and were divinely ordained for their sole enjoyment. They arrogate to themselves the offices of sole defenders of the Republic. Protestants would do well to investigate a bit concerning the "freethinking" tendencies of the Fathers of the Republic. Apparently politics is fine sport for Protestants but a very dangerous game for Catholics — particularly in the South. Do the Catholics ever maintain a frankly legislative lobby at Washington as does the Northern Methodist Church? Has the Catholic Church ever encouraged or advocated the passage of anti-evolution laws, or of any laws restricting science? Has the Catholic Church been recently guilty of ramming any form of legislation down the throats of the people?

This country is rapidly drifting away from old political alignments. No longer in the future will our parties be merely Democratic and Republican—but they will assume an European aspect, and the terms liberal, conservative, clerical, anti-clerical, etc., will begin to color our speech. Fundamentalism, in its nefarious activities, has brought home to us the political possibilities of religion. William Jennings Bryan was the archtype of the future politico-religious demagogue. Recent psychology has convinced thinkers that we have shed few of our primitive racial traits. Future religious strife is an easy and very dangerous possibility. Politicians in America are discovering a vast mine of demagogic nuggets.

Al Smith's pronouncement on religion puts him above the class of men who believe in mixing their religion with their politics. Little matters whether the candidate for any office be Catholic or Protestant, but much matters whether he be a religious bigot or not. That Smith would make a great president in spite of his Catholicism is beyond question. A number of men have been great executives in spite of their Protestantism.

In the closing words of his memorable and historic open letter to Mr. Marshall, Governor Smith nobly breathes this prayer:

"In this spirit I join with fellow Americans of all creeds in a fervent prayer that never again in this land will any public servant be challenged because of the faith in which he has tried to walk humbly with his God."

Every truly sincere soul will echo this prayer to the high heavens, but candor compels the prophecy that in consideration of the past political history of Romanism and of the present political meddling of the Protestant church, together with the subconscious primitive tendencies of the masses towards religious bigotry and prejudice, the time is rapidly approaching when each and every candidate for high office, whether he be Protestant or Catholic, will be publicly interpellated concerning that fundamental base of American liberty, the separation of church and state, as was Governor Smith. Governor Smith has most eloquently and convincingly answered for himself. Each man must speak for himself—there can be no proxies in this high matter—for eternal vigilance is the price of our liberties.

Until the American Constitution becomes a scrap of paper, there will never cease to be danger from clerical intermeddling in governmental affairs. History utters her warning too clearly for any one to doubt this fact. If religious tests are to be applied to Catholics then certainly they will be applied to Pro-

(Continued on Page 267)

THE FOURTH OF JULY

AN EDITORIAL

One of the oldest holidays we have occurs this month—the Fourth of July, the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. For more than a century the birthdays of this great document have been the occasions of great enthusiasm all over the United States. Here in Georgia, which furnished three "signers"—Lyman Hall, Button Gwinnett and George Walton—to Jefferson's immortal state paper, they have, from the beginning, always been hailed with delight, in cities, towns and rural communities. Originally the celebration of these anniversaries was by Revolutionary patriots and their families, who then constituted the entire white population. Death, however, soon removed the great majority of these gallant men from the theatre of human action, and with their passing the mode of celebrating the great day underwent many changes. Politics were injected into it and for thirty years before the commencement of the war between the states budding lawyers then had an opportunity to display their eloquence (?), and the American eagle spread his wings from "Rabun's height to Tybee light." These celebrations were frequently elaborate affairs; often one person would deliver the speech and another read the Declaration. Then would follow a fine barbecue dinner, after which a long list of toasts would be drunk, and, there being as yet no Volstead act, the day would terminate in great hilarity. Of course, bands of music would be in evidence, and there would be a great deal of powder burned, shot away in firecrackers, small arms, and, in the cities, cannon. On one of these occasions in the town of Crawfordville in 1839, Hon. George M. Troup, a famous Georgia statesman of the old days, was named as a Presidential candidate.

Now, just what is the meaning of the Declaration of Independence, whose natal day falls on July 4? It means exactly what it says, that this country and its inhabitants are totally free and independent of the ownership or control of Great Britain. It means that we are no longer a part of the "provinces." Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration, was the founder of the Democratic party and when he penned the lines, "We hold these truths to be self evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator

with certain unalianble rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, that to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness," he gave us democracy, pure and simple.

We are strongly in favor of an annual Fourth of July observance; we believe in it, but we also believe in a safe and sane celebration. People should notice where they are shooting on that day as on all other days, to the end that the casualty list will not be increased.

May we all be able to enjoy this next 4th day, but may we not regard it solely as a day to celebrate, a day to quit work, a day to have what we imagine a fine time, but may we rather give a thought to our country, what she is, what she means to us, what she is going to be. May we be grateful to the splendid men who fought and died that our country might gain her independence and, above all, may we resolve to be better citizens, so that we may be a credit to our country and to our fathers who made America what she is today.

FROM THE PRESS

Continued from Page 265

testants. Andre Siegfriend entitled his latest book suggestively "America Comes Of Age." Quite inevitably America is coming up to the stature of her European mother and American politics begins to manifest its inheritance of an European complexion.

Ed. Note: This is just a polite slander at Mr. Watson's anti-Catholic work. Our readers will note the **keen sense of humor (?)** in referring to Mr. Watson frothing at the mouth because a St. Louis ball club, the Cardinals, were climbing in league standing. This newspaper man was no doubt a Catholic and had American principles at heart just about as much as the Pope of Rome.

Mr. Watson's own article in this issue of The Watsonian, "The Roman Catholic Societies," fully explains Mr. Tettick's line of argument and his "better class of Southern papers."

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

ILLUSTRIOUS AMERICAN PATRIOT:

My Dear Miss Watson:

Your card at hand and am greatly rejoiced to know that you are continuing the great work of that illustrious American patriot, your grandfather. May years hold the greatest success and may it be said of you as is said of him, A patriotic American indeed.

Yours respectfully,
R. L. SLATEM.

* * * * *

HOPEFUL SIGN:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.
Dear Friends:

It is a hopeful sign when magazines of the character such as you sent me are on the increase—good food.

Respectfully,
L. P. FOWLES.

Olympia, Wash.

* * * * *

ARDENT ADMIRER:

Miss Georgia Watson Lee,
Thomson, Ga.
My Dear Miss Lee:

I am in receipt of the sample copy of The Watsonian and am greatly pleased with the same. I sat down and read it through with keen enjoyment, a real thrill.

I am an ardent admirer of your illustrious grandfather and have read most of his writings I could get hold of. I anticipate much enjoyment from re-reading much of his writings. I get a real kick from reading notes of his school experiences. I, myself, am an ex-teacher and those notes bring to me experiences, some sad, some glad, and many amusing. I was born and bred in "Ole Virginny" and got my first schooling in the subscription schools of that state. I have lived in Iowa 57 years but I still love the Sunny Southland and her fine people.

I am enclosing you one dollar to insure the future visits of The Watsonian.

Wishing you, Miss Lee, long life, happiness, and great prosperity in your new venture, I am,

Very truly,
E. A. ARMSTRONG.

Guthrie Center, Iowa.

* * * * *

A CALAMITY:

Mrs. Georgia Watson Lee,
Thomson, Ga.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Have just received the card relative to the "Watsonian Magazine." I herewith enclose the card and a two-cent stamp for the third issue containing the Life of T. E. W.

I once lived in Georgia and I knew your grandfather, T. E. W. I have been away from your State 30 years, but I always read every issue of the Jeffersonian, and sent in several clubs. I have several personal letters from T. E. W. which I prize very highly.

No one regretted his passing out more than I. It is a calamity that the world is deprived of his great intellect.

He towered above them all. He was a lovable and wonderful man. I loved him for his friendship, loved him for his great heart of sympathy that went out to the common people, among whom I am one.

With best wishes for your success,
I am yours very truly,
D. Y. McKINNEY.

Arlington, Tex.

IMMORTAL TOM:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed one dollar for your magazine. Glad to know the work is being renewed and the fires shall not die but will yet enlighten the Catholic mind to a sense of duty to the stalwart principles of our **Immortal Tom.**

Yours truly,
J. M. WILSON.

Boykins, Va.

* * * * *

DEFENDER OF AMERICAN PRINCIPLES:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.

Dear Editor:

I think your April issue of The Watsonian the best one yet. I was a great admirer of Senator Thomas E. Watson. I think that he was the **greatest defender of principles in America.** Your magazine will be a great help to perfect the progressive Democracy of Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, and Thomas E. Watson. May the great chief justice of the Union bless and direct the new publication.

E. D. BETTS.

Washington, D. C.

* * * * *

DEAR LOVER:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.

Gentlemen:

Find enclosed P. O. M. O. for $1.00 for which please send me The Watsonian for 12 months. Please send the March and April numbers if you have them. I am very anxious to get them as I was a **dear lover** of Hon. T. E. Watson.

Yours very truly,
Ganado, Texas.

Ed. Note: As stated before, it is impossible to supply the February and March numbers of The Watsonian. We regret that we can not comply with our many friends who desire a complete file.

* * * * *

ONE OF THE GREATEST:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed you will find card with a dollar bill for which please send The Watsonian one year. For more than thirty years I read T. E. Watson's writings and think him **one of the greatest** men this country ever produced.

Wishing you success in your undertaking, I am,

Yours truly,
R. J. SMITH.

Appleton City, Mo.

* * * * *

A TRUE FRIEND IN NEBRASKA:

The Watsonian,
Thomson, Ga.

Dear Editor:

I am enclosing $3.00 for three subscriptions to The Watsonian.

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No orphan's cry to wound my ear,
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Thus may I calmly meet my end—
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